

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A printing management system comprising a printing management server which is connectable to a user terminal via a network and a printing apparatus which is connectable to a document server via a network,

wherein the printing management ~~server~~ server includes:

a receiving unit, which receives a printing request of an electronic file, via said network;

an identification pattern generating unit, which generates identification patterns, including information concerning a storing place of the electronic file and information concerning a printing condition of the electronic file, based on the received printing request of the electronic file, the printing condition including at least one of a sheet size, a printing quantity, a black and white/color printing selection, a reduction ratio and a quantity of pages N, the quantity of pages N corresponding to the number of pages to be placed on a single page in N-up printing; and

a sending unit, which sends back said identification pattern to the user terminal, via said network, and

the printing apparatus includes:

a reading unit, which reads said identification pattern output by ~~[[a]]~~ the user terminal;

an electronic file obtaining unit, which obtains an electronic file from said electronic file management server, via said network, based on the read identification pattern and extracts information concerning the printing condition of the electronic file from said identification pattern; and

a printing unit, which prints the obtained electronic file based on the extracted information concerning the printing condition.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The printing management system according to claim 1, wherein said identification pattern is a barcode.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The printing management system according to claim 1, wherein said receiving unit receives the printing request, by electronic mail, and said sending unit sends back an electronic mail, including information concerning the identification pattern.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The printing management system according to claim 1 that further comprises an electronic file generating unit, which generates said electronic file based on the printing request, and stores the electronic file in a predetermined storing area.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The printing management system according to claim 1, wherein the information concerning the storing place of said electronic file, is information concerning URL.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The printing management system according to claim 1, wherein said network, includes internet.

Claims 8-10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): An electronic file printing method that performs printing of an electronic file of a document, ~~applying~~ using a user terminal, a printing apparatus, and an electronic file management server, connected via a network, comprising:

a receiving step, wherein the electronic file management server receives a printing request of an electronic file, sent by said user terminal, via said network;

a sending back step, wherein said electronic file management server generates an identification pattern, including information concerning a storing place of the electronic file and information concerning a printing condition of the electronic file, based on the received printing request of the electronic file, and sends back the identification pattern to said user terminal, the printing condition including at least one of a sheet size, a printing quantity, a black and white/color printing selection, a reduction ratio and a quantity of pages N, the quantity of pages N corresponding to the number of pages to be placed on a single page in N-up printing;

a displaying step, wherein said user terminal displays the received identification pattern;

an obtaining step, wherein said printing apparatus obtains the identification pattern from a reading apparatus that reads the identification pattern, displayed by said user terminal;

an obtaining step, wherein said printing apparatus obtains the electronic file, from said electronic file management server, via said network, based on the obtained identification pattern and extracts information concerning the printing condition of the electronic file from said identification pattern; and

a printing step, wherein said printing apparatus performs printing of the obtained electronic file based on the extracted information concerning the printing condition.

Claims 12-18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (New): A printing management system comprising a printing management server which is connectable to a user terminal via a network and a printing apparatus which is connectable to a document server via a network,

wherein the printing management server includes:

a receiving unit, which receives a printing request of an electronic file, via said network;

an identification pattern generating unit, which generates identification patterns, including information concerning a storing place of the electronic file and information concerning a storing place of a printing condition of the electronic file, based on the received printing request of the electronic file; and

a sending unit, which sends back said identification pattern to the user terminal, via said network, and

the printing apparatus includes:

a reading unit, which reads said identification pattern output by the user terminal;

an electronic file obtaining unit, which obtains an electronic file and information concerning a printing condition of the electronic file from said document server, via said network, based on the read identification pattern and extracts information concerning the printing condition of the electronic file from said identification pattern; and

a printing unit, which prints the obtained electronic file based on the obtained information concerning the printing condition.